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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 08048.0018-00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Jean-Louis H. GUERET) Group Art Unit: 3751
)
Application No.: 09/986,021) Examiner: K. Prunner
)
Filed: November 7, 2001)
)
For: PRODUCT APPLICATION)
)
DEVICE INCLUDING A DIP TUBE)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the document listed on the attached IDS Form PTO/SB/08. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination in the above-referenced application.

A copy of the listed document is attached, along with an English language translation thereof. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed document and indicate that it was considered by making appropriate notations on the attached IDS Form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is

material or constitutes "prior art." If the Examiner applies the document as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicant determines that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Patent Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

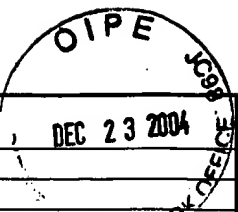
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 23, 2004

By: Anthony M. Gutowski, Reg. No. 38,742
Anthony M. Gutowski
Reg. No. 38,742



IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	09/986,021
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Filing Date	November 7, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Jean-Louis H. GUERET
				Art Unit	3751
				Examiner Name	K. Prunner
				Attorney Docket Number	08048.0018
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			

Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		CH 406 544	08/15/1966	Becher		Yes

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

PTO Notes regarding this form:

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).

⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.

⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.